

Longbow HELLFIRE



MISSION

Provide an adverse weather, fire-and-forget, heavy anti-armor capability for the Army's AH-64D Longbow Apache attack helicopter.

DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Longbow HELLFIRE missile is a fire-and-forget version of the HELLFIRE missile which uses inertial guidance. It is part of the AH-64D Longbow Apache attack helicopter (AH-64D) system that includes a mast-mounted fire control radar (FCR) and launcher. The Longbow FCR will locate, classify, and prioritize targets for the Longbow HELLFIRE missile. The Longbow HELLFIRE missile incorporates a millimeter-wave radar seeker on a HELLFIRE II missile aft-section bus.

The primary advantages of the Longbow missile include the following:

- Adverse weather capability (rain, snow, fog, smoke, and battlefield obscurants)
- Millimeter-wave countermeasures survivability
- Fire-and-forget guidance, which allows the Apache to launch and then immediately remask, thus minimizing exposure to enemy fire
- An advanced warhead capable of defeating all projected armor threats into the 21st century
- Reprogrammability to adapt to changing threats and mission requirements

The combination of Longbow HELLFIRE's fire-and-forget capability and HELLFIRE II's precision guidance will provide the battlefield commander with flexibility across a wide range of mission scenarios. This permits fast battle-field response and high mobility not afforded by other anti-armor weapons.

Diameter: 7 in

Weight: 108 lb

Length: 68 in

FOREIGN COUNTERPART

No known foreign counterpart

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

Singapore and Israel (foreign military sale); United Kingdom (direct commercial sale).

PROGRAM STATUS

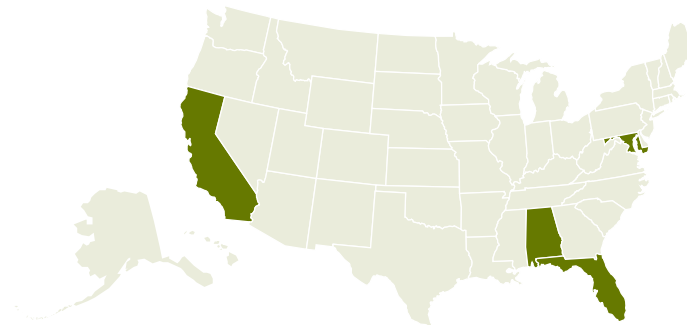
- **1QFY99** Received authorization for FY99–03 multiyear contract.
- **April 30, 1999** Awarded multiyear contract.
- **November 23, 1999** Multiyear Program Year 2 funded.
- **4QFY00** Delivered 1861 cumulative Longbow Hellfire missiles into inventory.

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- Continue fielding.
- Complete low rate initial production II.
- Complete lock-on-before-launch inhibit test.
- Complete full rate production.
- Fund multiyear program years 3, 4, and 5.

PRIME CONTRACTORS

Lockheed Martin (Orlando, FL); Northrop Grumman (Huntsville, AL; Bethesda, MD)



* See appendix for list of subcontractors

